

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026938

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, US, EEWT

SUBJECT: GDR AND SOVIET REACTIONS TO TRADE ACT

REF: BERLIN 5158

1.) DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES DELICATE POSITION OF
AMBASSADOR VIS-A-VIS BOTH GDR GOVERNMENT AND SOVIET
AMBASSADOR. BECAUSE OF SENSITIVITY OF THESE RELATIONSHIPS,
DEPARTMENT WOULD PARTICULARLY RECOMMEND CAUTIOUS STANCE,
SINCE ANY SPECULATION COULD GIVE SOVIETS AND/OR GDR FALSE
SIGNALS CONCERNING COMPLEX LEGISLATIVE SITUATION HERE.

2.) CONCERNING QUESTIONS POSED PARA 5 REFTTEL, DEPARTMENT
IS NOT PREPARED AT THIS TIME TO GO BEYOND SECRETARY'S
REMARKS AT JANUARY 14 AND 28 PRESS CONFERENCES.

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3.) IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, POST MAY WISH TO BE AWARE OF

FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED BY WHITE HOUSE TO VARIOUS
AGENCIES CONCERNING SOVIET DENUNCIATION OF 1972 TRADE
AGREEMENT: (A) OFFER NO SPECULATION CONCERNING THE EFFECT

OF DENUNCIATION ON OTHER AGREEMENTS OR OBLIGATIONS
INVOLVING THE SOVIET UNION; (B) AVOID DISCUSSION OF
POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS FOR SOVIET DECISIONS; AND (C) DO NOT
ASSIGN BLAME OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SERIES OF EVENTS
LEADING TO SOVIET DENUNCIATION. KISSINGER

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